

To the Horfield Urban District Council.

Gentlemen,

It gives me pleasure in presenting my annual report for the year 1896 to state that the general health of the District during this period has been very satisfactory.

We have unfortunately in common with Bristol and adjacent districts, suffered from a wide-spread epidemic of Scarlatina, but it has been of an extremely mild character, and the percentage of deaths small, while those who have fallen victims to this dreaded complaint, will hereafter have the advantage of being probably safe from ever contracting the disorder again.

The births registered during the year numbered 328 being at the rate of 26.5 per 1000 per annum, as compared with 28.6 in the previous year, and 31.3 for the 35 large towns.

The deaths numbered 129 representing a rate of 11.2 as against 12.4 in the preceding year, and 10.8 for the large towns: our average for the last ten years being 12.2. Thirty five of the deaths were of infants under a year old, including ten from premature births, and giving an infantile mortality of 105 per 1000 births. Twenty-one deaths occurred between the ages of 1 and 5, six between 5 and 15, seven between 15 and 25, thirty-two between 25 and 65, and 28 (whose ages averaged 76) at 65 and upwards.

The district was entirely free from Smallpox during the year, but as already mentioned, Scarlatina was very prevalent, the number notified being 120, five ending fatally. Measles and Whooping Cough also were slightly prevalent, three of the former and five of the latter proving fatal.

Of Diphtheria five cases were reported, one of which died. Two cases of Enteric or Typhoid Fever were notified one being due to defective drainage, and the other contracted by an infant on the way from India. Both recovered. Only one case of Erysipelas was reported during the year. Two deaths were due to Diarrhoea, one to Rheumatic Fever, eleven to Phthisis, twenty-eight to Bronchitis and other diseases of the respiratory organs, ten to Heart Disease, and seven to Cancer. One death was caused by violence, and one was uncertified. Three inquests were held during the year.

The District has been kept under careful supervision by your Inspector and myself, special inspections being made from time to time and due attention being given to Dairies, Bakehouses, Slaughter houses, &c. The nuisances dealt with have been unimportant in character and are tabulated by your Inspector in the appended report.

Your District is excellently drained and nearly every house receives its ^a ~~winter~~ supply from the Bristol Water Works. I had hoped to be able to report this year the possession of a Hospital for infectious diseases, but that pleasure is denied me. I am glad to know, however, that plans have been deposited for some time with the Local Government Board for their approval; and I am now hopeful that a start will soon be made.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J. H. PARRY,

M. O. H.

18th February, 1897.

Horfield,

13th February, 1897.

Mr. Chairman & Gentlemen,

I have been requested by your Medical Officer of Health to furnish you with a report of the work carried out by your Inspector of Nuisances during the twelve months ending December 31st, 1896.

During the twelve months your Inspector has paid 358 visits to various properties in reference to Nuisances or supposed Nuisances, in a number of cases he has been accompanied by your Medical Officer of Health. 106 Cases of Nuisances have been dealt with and abated, classified as follows, viz:-

Defective Drainage	59.
Animals kept so as to be a Nuisance	15.
Smoke Nuisances	2.
Defective Sanitary Arrangements	4.
Accumulation of Filth	3.
Dirty Houses	2.
Dirty Bake Houses	8.
Water unfit for Drinking	1.
Defective Shutting	2.
Drainage complained of but found intact	10.

In addition to the above 45 drains have been tested, and one private drain has been relaid under the provisions of the Public Health Act, Amendment Act.

The Slaughter Houses, Milk Shops and Bake Houses have been systematically inspected.

138 Cases of Infectious Diseases have been notified, each case has been visited, particulars obtained, and printed instructions issued by your M.O.H. have been supplied.

In all Cases the Rooms, etc., have been thoroughly disinfected by your own Staff after recovery.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

JOHN A. WRIGHT.

